

COVID-19 Update for CDHA members June 4, 2020

CDHA is Here to Help

Read our latest updates: <u>www.cdha.ca/safetyalerts</u> Email us: <u>alerts@cdha.ca</u>

Dear member,

New Free Webinar: Redefining IPAC: It's All About the New Routine

Sponsored by Colgate

The Coronavirus pandemic has brought the dental hygiene profession to a halt. As a result, routine practice of infection prevention and control (IPAC) requires redefining with an expansion of risk management and personal protective equipment (PPE) elements. This presentation will examine viable solutions to continue the delivery of therapeutic and preventive oral health care while using a safe and effective approach.

Return to Work Guidance

The downloadable Return to Work Handbook, including questions to ask your employer, will be updated next week. Stay tuned for more guidance for dental hygienists considering a return to work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Extending Advocacy In Support Of Canadian Seniors

CDHA is aware of the ongoing pressures affecting long-term care systems hard-hit by COVID-19. Seniors' oral health has been an ongoing focus for CDHA and we have been urging government to take oral health into consideration in any discussions of key policy and program priorities to support the overall health of Canadian seniors.

Our advice to government is to work with the dental hygiene profession and others on the development of national guidelines and standards for oral health in care home settings. This focus has been part of our ongoing coordination

THE CANADIAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS ASSOCIATION L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES HYGIÉNISTES DENTAIRES with constituent provincial dental hygiene associations to align messaging to federal and provincial ministers responsible for health and seniors.

Advocating For Paid Sick Leave

Support for universal paid sick leave for all Canadian workers has also been part of our recent government relations in extending CDHA's strong support to the Government of Canada for continuing discussions with the provinces in ensuring dental hygienists have access to 10 days of paid sick leave a year.

New Video Added

We have added a new video to CDHA's Conversations to Build Collaborative Workplaces video series. Please watch the <u>Returning to Work: A Positive</u> <u>Mindset</u> for suggestions on how to set a positive attitude when returning to practice during these challenging times. A reminder that the Introductory Video: *Developing Your Mindset* and the accompanying tip sheet provide guidance on how to have challenging conversations in the workplace.

> Please be well and take care of yourselves in this difficult time. Everyone can do their part to slow COVID-19.